

S-254
Davis Chapel
Rehobeth vicinity
public workshop

1876

Davis Chapel, more commonly known as Rehobeth Methodist Episcopal Church, is a simple rectangular frame structure trimmed with bracketed eaves. At some point during the early twentieth century, a raised, rusticated block foundation was substituted for the earlier brick foundation. At the same time a front vestibule was attached. The additional space on the ground floor allowed for a church hall. Despite these alterations, the Davis Chapel is one of the least altered rural church buildings dating from the second half of the nineteenth century.

The original Rehobeth area Methodist congregation was organized in 1830 at Frogeye, and in the same year a church was evidently erected. However, in 1876 the congregation decided to move closer to Rehobeth, and they erected the Davis Chapel within the year. The old Frogeye property was sold to the black congregation.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. S-254

Magi No. 2002545608

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Davis Chapel

and/or common Rehobeth Methodist Church

2. Location

street & number E. side of Shelltown Road ☐ not for publication

city, town Rehobeth ☐ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland ☐ county Somerset

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Trustees of Rehobeth Methodist Church

street & number Shelltown Road telephone no.:

city, town Rehobeth state and zip code MD 21857

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset Clerk of Court liber

street & number Somerset County Courthouse folio

city, town Princess Anne state MD 21853

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

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Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Rehobeth Methodist Church stands on the ^{east} side of Shelltown Road, a half-mile south on Vessey Road near Rehobeth, Somerset County, Maryland. The bracketed frame church faces west with the primary gable running on as east/west axis.

The dated 1876 rectangular frame structure is supported by a raised rusticated block foundation and is sheathed with uniform weatherboard siding. The medium sloped roof is covered with asphalt shingles, while the front and side eaves are embellished with decorative brackets.

The west (main) elevation is largely covered by an off-center gabled entry vestibule reached by a flight of rusticated concrete block steps. The front newel posts have large concrete ball finials. A three over one sash pierces the foundation wall, while a single six over six sash window occupies the bay to the right of the entrance. Framing the front as well as the side elevations are plain pilasters. The wall space directly left of the entrance is filled with a large-size 9/6 sash window.

The north and south sides are essentially alike with 3/1 sash piercing the foundation wall, and three 9/6 sash lighting the sanctuary. A narrow stove stack rises from each side.

The east end has a shed-roofed apse with 2/2 sash windows in each side.

The interior was not seen.

Located to the north of the church is a 19th-century cemetery. Several dozen grave markers comprise the collection of gravestones. The remnant of iron Victorian fence is located to the north and east. The earliest stones date from the mid 19th century.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1876 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

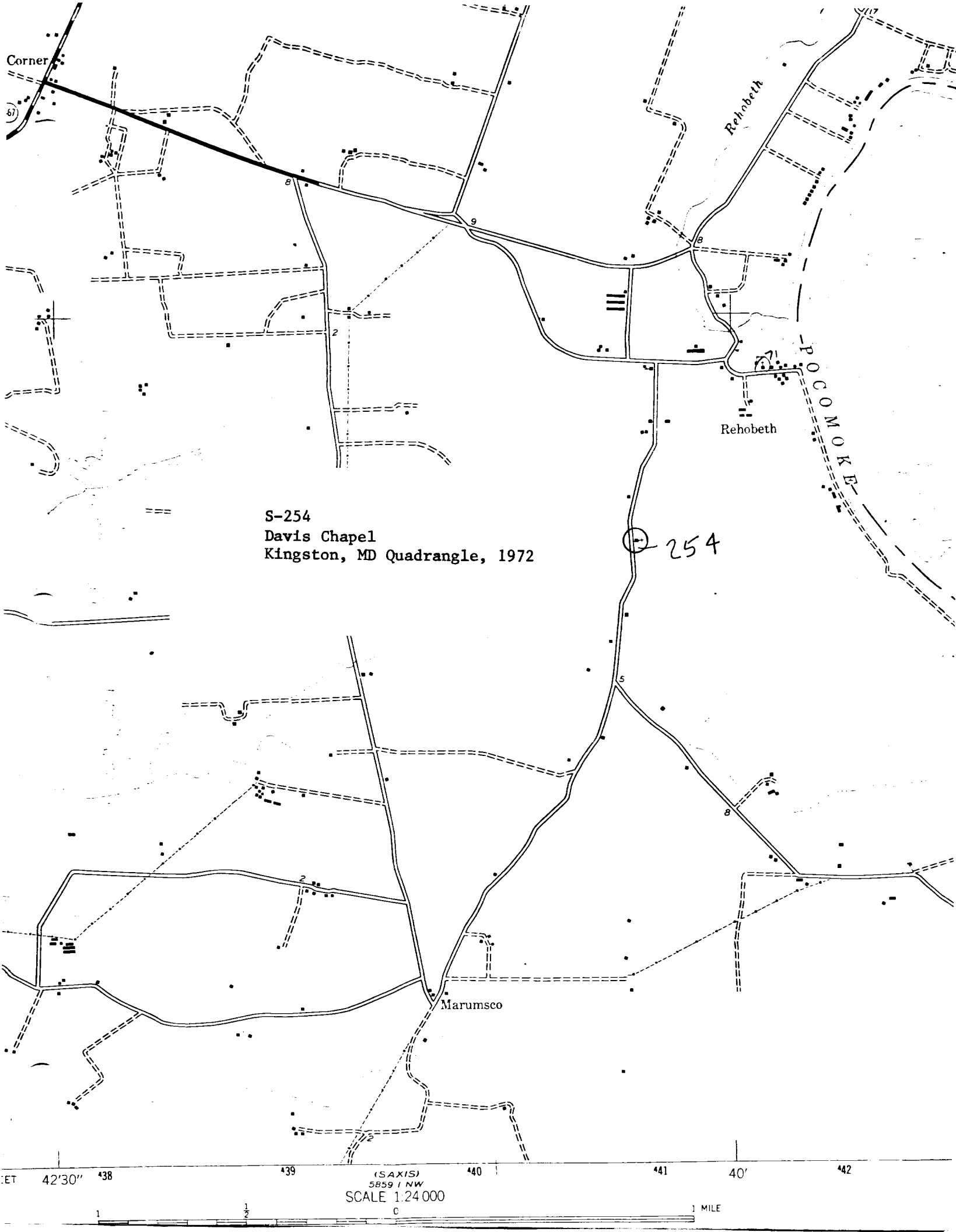
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History and Support

The original Rehobeth area Methodist congregation was organized in 1830 at Frogeye and in the same year a church was erected. However, in 1876 the congregation decided to move closer to Rehobeth and they erected the Davis Chapel within the year. The old Frogeye property was sold to the black congregation. The Rehobeth Methodists have occupied the "new" building since that time.

Survey No. S-254

PS-2746





S-254
Davis Chapel
Near Rehobeth, Somerset County
West Elevation
4/85, Photographer, Paul Touart
Neg./MD. Historical Trust



Davis Chapel S-254
Near Rehobeth, Somerset County
North Elevation
4/85, Photographer, Paul Touart
Neg./MD. Historical Trust



Davis Chapel S-254
Rehobeth vicinity, Somerset County, Md.
Northwest Elevation
3/85 Paul Touart, Photographer
Neg./Md. Hist. Trust